GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:69
ANSWERED ON:02.02.2017
Development of National Highways
Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Sanjar Shri Alok

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways (NHs) as on date including their status and the number of NHs requiring maintenance;

(b) the proposals received by the Government for the construction of new NHs and Maintenance of existing NHs, State/UT-wise;

(c) the norms adopted to allocate funds to States for development of NHs in the country;

(d) the funds earmarked/allocated/spent for the development of NHs during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise, and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target fixed for the development of NHs during the 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) The details of National Highways (NHs) in the country is at Annexure-I. Out of total length of about 1,13,298 km NHs, about 25,759 km are having 4 or more lanes; 57,481 km are having 2-lanes; balance length of about 30,058 km are of less than 2 lane NH standards. The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. The works on NHs are, accordingly, taken up from time to time as per inter-se priority, traffic density and availability of funds to keep the NHs in traffic worthy conditions.

(b) The State/UT-wise details of the proposals received for the development and maintenance of NHs during 2016-17 is at Annexure-II.

(c) and (d) Allocation of funds for development of NHs are made for States/UTs keeping in view the requirements, inter-se priority and availability of resources. The State/UT-wise funds allocated and released/spent for the development of NHs during each of the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-III.

(e) Regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors in Head Quarter by Ministry with Regional Officers, concessionaires /contractors to make the construction of projects hassle free. To expedite completion of these projects various steps have been taken which include streamlining of land acquisition & environment clearances, exit for equity investors, premium re-schedulement, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc. The various measures taken include :

Environment and Forest Clearance

â€¢ Delegation of powers to Regional Offices by Ministry of Environment and Forest.
â€¢ EC (Environment Clearance) not required for length of 100 km. Even beyond 100 km, EC is not required if widening is restricted to 40m and realignment to 60m.

ROBs (Rail Over Bridge) / RUBs (Rail Under Bridge):

The procedure for GAD (General Arrangement Drawing) approved by Railways for ROBs has been simplified and made online. Maintenance charges which were hampering the progress of many projects, stand waived by Railways. Standard design have been put on website.

Financial initiatives

â€¢ Loan secured to the extent of termination payment.
â€¢ Infrastructure debt fund − Long term financing at low interest rates
â€¢ Reschedulement of premium − Bank Rate+2%.
â€¢ 100% exit after 2 years of completion in projects awarded before 2009.
â€¢ Fund infusion by NHAI in stalled projects where the physical progress is 50% and the concessionaire is facing shortage of funds.
â€¢ NHAI liberally permitting refinance with elongation of repayment period. RBI(Reserve Bank of India) has also issued circular for providing long term debt finance matching the concession period without classifying the exposure as restructured.